GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:528
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2004
PENSION TO BANK EMPLOYEES
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ex-servicemen Bank Employees from `State Bank of Hyderabad` who had to their credit 15 years and more of pensionable service in the Bank, retired under `Bank`s Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS-2001)`1 were denied pension when a clear amendment to `Bank (Employees) Pension Regulations-1995`,was already existing to this effect;

(b) if so, the reasons for denying the pension to these employees`

(c) whether the Government is considering any proposal to give pension to these employees; and

(d) if so, by when?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) & (b)> Voluntary Retirement Scheme circulated by the State Bank of Hyderabad clearly stipulated that` those employees who apply for retirement under the scheme but who have not completed 20 years of pensionable service as on the relevant date are not eligible for pension`. The Pension Regulations of State Bank of Hyderabad as well as other associate banks of State Bank of India were made by SBI with the approval of the RBI, whereas the pension regulations of the nationalized banks were made by the banks after consultation with the Reserve Bank of India and with the prior approval of the Central Government. The amendment to Bank (Employees) Pension Regulations , 1995 referred to in the question relate to nationalized banks and not to the associate banks of SBI. The request made by National Ex-servicemen Coordination Committee for providing pension to VRS optees with the minimum service of 15 years was examined by the State Bank of Hyderabad. The bank has reported that the Associate Banks as a group have decided ir consultation with SBI not to amend the pension regulations retrospectively to provide pensionary benefits to such employees.

(c):- No, Sir.

(d):- Does not arise.